*27. [The questioner (Shri Anil Sharma) was absent. For answer *vide* pages 31-32 *infra*.]

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: What about Mr. Geelani?

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: He was sentenced under the Official Secrets Act, which was withdrawn. ....(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: You did it in TADA. Why can't you do it in POTA? ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Sir, ...(*Interruptions*)... Only recently, the Government of India applied POTA. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Geelani, ultimately, was being prosecuted for obscenity. For obscenity, becuase nothing could be found against him.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Q. No. 29.

श्री नीलोत्पल बसु: गिलानी केस का क्या होगा...(व्यवधान)....

श्री सभापति: आप दोनों सीनियर ऐडवोकेट्स हैं, मैं आपसे एक बात की जानकारी चाहूंगा कि जो मैटर कोर्ट में है, उसके बारे में गवर्नमेंट कैसे कह सकती है?...(व्यवधान)...

श्री कपिल सिब्बल: मैं बताता हूं...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सुरेश पचौरी: हम उसकी व्याख्या नहीं जानना चाहते, लेकिन वह उसका उदाहरण दे सकती है...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Sir, we do not accept this explanation. We are walking out.

(At this stage, some hon. Members left the Chamber.)

*29. [*The questioner (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI AND DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY were absent for answer vide pages* 32-33.]

National Electric Power Survey

*30. SHRI LALITBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 15th National Electric Power Survey carried out by Central Electricity Authority projected the need for capacity augmentation by 55000 MW for the Tenth Plan;

(b) if so, the reasons for targeting the augmentation of 41100 MW during Tenth Plan; and

(c) what steps are being taken to bridge the energy deficit during Tenth Plan period in the country?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c) The 15th Electric Power Survey estimated demand in the country. It was on the basis of 16th Electric Power Survey that the Working Group on Power for the 10th Plan constituted by the Planning Commission estimated the need based requirement of capacity addition of 55,158 MW for the 10th Plan. After discussions with the State Utilities and the Central Undertakings, it recommended a feasible capacity addition of 46,939 MW. The matter was further deliberated with the Planning Commission and depending upon the availability of resources and readiness of the projects a capacity addition target of 41,110 MW was settled. Effective mechanisms have been put in place to ensure timely completion of the projects and achievement of the targetted capacity during 10th Plan.

In addition to the benefits from new generating capacity, the power supply position is expected to further improve through:

An additional capacity of 3000 MW is expected to come from renewable sources of energy. In addition, supply of 1000 MW from Tala Hydroelectric Project in Bhutan is expected in the 10th Plan.

Undertaking energy conservation measures for which the Energy Conservation Act has been enacted and the Bureau of Energy Efficiency constituted.

Reducing technical losses in distribution. The Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP) is designed for the attainment of this objective.

Undertaking Renovation Modernisation (R and M) of existing power stations which combined with improved Operation and Maintenance practices would lead to higher availability and generation.

Export of power from surplus to deficit region through the gradual development of a National Grid to optimize utilization of generating capacity on an all India basis.

Installation of capacity generating plants. The new Electricity Bill provides for a liberal framework for construction of captive power plants freely.

श्री ललितभाई मेहता: सभापति महोदय, 55,000 मेगावाट बिजली की आवश्यकता का अनुमान एक टैक्निकल अथॉरिटी लगाती है जबकि आप दसवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना के दौरान 41,110 मेगावाट बिजली के उत्पादन का लक्ष्य तय करके चल रहे हैं। आज देश में बिजली की बहुत कमी है, सारे राज्यों में कमी है और बिजली के उत्पादन की दृष्टि से हम संसाधनों का पूरा उपयोग भी नहीं कर रहे हैं। तो मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि इस क्षमता का पूरा उपयोग न होने का क्या कारण है?

श्री अनन्त गंगाराम गीते: सभापति जी, जो सर्वेक्षण किया गया है, उस सर्वेक्षण के मुताबिक दसवें प्लान के अंदर 55,000 मैगावाट वृद्धि का अनुमान लगाया गया था लेकिन उसके बाद सारे राज्यों के साथ चर्चा हुई और राज्य सरकारों से चर्चा करने के बाद यह जो 55,000 मैगावाट का अनुमान लगाया गया था, वह वास्तव में 46,000 मैगावाट तक आ गया। उसको वास्तविक स्वरूप में लाने के लिए जब प्लानिंग कमीशन से इसके बारे में चर्चा हुई तो जो संसाधन हमारे पास उपलब्ध हैं और जो धन हमारे पास उपलब्ध है, उसे देखते हुए प्लानिंग कमीशन ने 41,000 मैगावाट तक की वृद्धि का अनुमान लगाया है।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Withdrawal of subsidy on power consumption by farmers

*24. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Central Electricity Authority has proposed withdrawal of subsidy on power consumption by farmers;

(b) whether it is a fact that the State Government are unable to implement the CEA's proposal as they are facing a lot of resistance from the farmers who are already reeling under drought and other calamities and non-remunerative prices for their agricultural produce; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Central Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE): (a) The Central Electricity Authority (CEA) has neither recommended nor proposed withdrawal of subsidy on power consumption by farmers.

(b) and (c) The question do not arise.